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VOL. X. NO. 40

REPORT FROM PARIS.

LUCIEN SANIAL'S ADDRESS IN ARLINGTON HALL.

A Review of the Events That Preceded the Congress—Graphic Description of the Congress Itself—Important Events That Followed—The French Kangaroo, like His American Cousin, is Being Walked by the Class-Conscious Socialists.

Arlington Hall in St. Marks Place was packed to the doors yesterday afternoon by the Socialist militants of New York and vicinity. They had gathered for the purpose of hearing Lucien Sanial, the Socialist Labor Party's delegate to the Paris International Congress, deliver his report on the work accomplished. Extraordinary interest was felt by all the Socialists present because of the magnificent stand taken by the American delegation at the congress on the Milbrand question. It was known that from the first to the last the American delegation fought the infamous Kautsky resolution that sought to dodge the Milbrand issue.

Henry Kuhn, the National Secretary of the Socialist Labor Party opened the meeting. He said: "This meeting is called by Section New York of the Socialist Labor Party for the purpose of giving Lucien Sanial an opportunity to render a report on the International Congress. All of you have read of the proceedings of that Congress. You know of the struggle that took place there between the reactionary and the revolutionary forces, and of how prominent a part America played in the struggle for the overthrow of all reaction. It may be said that no other Congress produced so much discussion as this one. There was an indication that what has happened in America within the last eight months would happen in Europe, and it has happened in France. The conflict between the Parti Ouvrier Français and the Millerandites was the fight between the S. L. P. and the Kangaroo transplanted to other shores."

"The Socialists of France are following the lead of America. When we have taught the rest of the nations how to draw the lines-hard and fast between the forces arrayed in the class struggle," Kuhn then introduced Sanial, who on being spoken was given an ovation that lasted for some minutes. He said in part:

"It is just four days ago since I landed here from France, where for eighty days I was participating in the tremendous conflict that has been raging between the militant Socialists and the so-called 'Intellectuals.' For the first four days the fight was on in the International Congress, and after that in the French National Congress, and finally in the Socialist organization of France.

"As to the International Congress, there never was a congress held of any sort that caused so much excitement among all classes. This is not strange, because it is but the beginning of the rolling of the cushion; the sum is coming to the top, and is being gradually blown off. It is again the prelude to the social revolution that is shaping itself all along the line. We should therefore know what is transpiring. Let us take a retrospective glance at the movement in France as the best method of understanding the whole situation:

"It was in '78 that modern Socialism was founded in France. For generations prior to that time utopian Socialism in its form or another found fruitful soil in that country. As far back as '32 the St. Simonians were at work with voice and pen, teaching the people and profoundly revolutionizing all the ideas of past times. Charles Fourier, Louis Blanc and others were working on the same lines until the revolution of '48 that was smothered in the blood of those who made it. For a number of years after the throne of France was occupied by the despotic despot, Napoleon III., until the commune burst forth and the République was born. Paris, the city of revolution, was the city of artists. Its Radicals, subsequently, were imbued with anarchist ideas, the spirit and the teachings of Prudhon prevailed. These people in particular, and the people of Paris generally, suffered terribly from the repression of the capitalist class. In '51 a man who had not yet read Marx, but who had nevertheless reasoned along the same lines, looked toward the formation of a movement along the lines of modern Socialism. Marx invited him to London, and there, in company with Engels and Marx, this man Jules Guesde, applauded and drew up the programme of the Parti Ouvrier Français.

"He returned to Paris with this programme, and in building up an organization based on it he suffered privations not amounted to torture. Associated with him at that time were two men, Alteman and Brusse. Not possessing the spirit of sacrifice of Guesde, they soon became jealous of him, and formed competing movements. They thought they could improve on the programme drawn by Marx. Brusse ran independent in Marseilles on a platform of his own construction, with the slogan of 'not something new.' Guesde turned them over to him.

"Then Alteman followed, and Brusse's movement split in two parts, the Parti

Ouvrier Français, with science for its rudder, plowed the troubled waters of French political life, unshaken and unshakable. (Applause!) Lafargue associated himself with Guesde, and great progress was made in the Department of the Nord, in Lyons, Rennes, in short, in all the great centers of industry. Where the industrial proletariat lived, there the Parti Ouvrier flourished.

"Then it appeared that Paris was no longer the great city of the revolution.

"Side by side with the growth of the Parti Ouvrier went the immense corruption of the capitalist class and its government. The Panama swindle stands in the nostrils of the people. Then came Louisiana and the declaration of the royalists that the Republic was a failure. So deep was the corruption that men of the middle class came into the Socialist movement to 'save the Republic,' as they thought. Hence Millerand and a Jaurès. When they came in they wanted to lead. They did not want the tried and trusty Guesde and Lafargue. They thought they knew it all. (Laughter.) Their views of what a leader is differs from that of the Socialist view. We contend that the leader is only like the drop at the crest of a wave, shining in the sunlight, that gives its position to the force of the wave that propelled it there. The Intellectuals thought the drop pulled the wave after it. (Laughter and applause.) They fought against what they called the 'chapel' or 'sectarian' spirit that recognized Guesde as a leader in the Socialist sense. Thus the friction went on.

"The Dreyfus affair arose at this time. It came as a godsend to the Intellectuals. The 'Petite République' was on its last legs, but with Jaurès stamping for Dreyfus and making the case a personal one the money from the Jewish financiers poured into the 'Républicaine's' coffers. Thus was witnessed the extraordinary sight of the wealthy Jews, including Rothschild, supporting the Socialists. (Laughter.) Guesde took the position that Dreyfus was a victim of the very system that he upheld. That as Socialists we fought all tyrants; and in fighting so we could not afford to make a personal master of the Dreyfus case.

"Jaurès was then made leading editorial writer on 'La Petite République,' at a salary of 18,000 francs. At this time the army officers threatened to resign. The Royalists were making demonstrations. It seemed as if the Republic was in danger. Then the Wallieck-Rousset ministry was formed and the Socialist Millerand was given a portfolio to save the capitalist republic. It might be asked why of all the pretenders could Millerand be given that of Minister of Commerce, which had more patronage to give away than that of any of the others? The post-office, for instance, with its 100,000 places and the 'bureau de Tabac' with its 200,000. This was done for the purpose of corrupting the militiamen who by accepting these positions would become conservative and thus help settle the movement of the working class.

"At the Congress of the Parti Ouvrier Français an issue was made of this Millerand matter, and they decided by an enormous majority that Millerand should be repudiated. Instead of repudiating him as ordered, the intellectuals set to work to destroy the P. O. F. Having no organization of their own they formed an alliance with the Anarchist Aristide Briand and the pure and simple unions. At this stage of the fight the International Congress was convened.

"When the Congress convened I was placed on the committee on resolutions of the Ninth Commission, as it is termed. There were in the ninth commission composed of the leading figures of International Socialism, two resolutions presented one by Guesde, the other by Kautsky. They were in French exclusively.

"This was the Kautsky resolution: In a modern democratic state the conquest of the public power by the proletariat cannot be the result of a COUP DE MAIN. IT MUST be the result of a LONG and PAINFUL work of proletarian organization on the economic and political fields of the PHYSICAL and MORAL REGENERACY of the laboring class and of the GRADUAL conquest of MUNICIPALITIES and legislative assemblies.

"But in countries where the governmental power is centralized, it cannot be conquered fragmentarily.

"The accession of an isolated Socialist to a capitalist government cannot be considered as the normal beginning of the conquest of political power, but only as an expedient, IMPOSED, transitory, and exceptional.

"Whether, in a particular case, the political situation necessitates this dangerous experiment, is a QUESTION OF TACTICS AND NOT OF PRINCIPLE; the INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS HAS NOT TO DECLARE ITSELF UPON THIS POINT; but in any case the participation of a Socialist in a capitalist government does not hold out the hope of good results for the militant proletariat. UNLESS a great majority of the Socialist Party approves of such an act and the Socialist minister remains the agent of his party. In the contrary case of this minister becoming independent of his party, or representative only a fraction of it, his intervention in a capitalist government threatens the militant proletariat with disorganization and confusion, with weakening instead of fortifying it; it threatens to hamper the proletarian conquest of the public powers instead of promoting it.

"At any rate the congress is of opinion that even in such extreme cases, a Socialist must leave the ministry when the organized party recognizes THAT THE GOVERNMENT GIVES EVI-

THE WEEK IN CONGRESS.

LEADING FEATURES OF THE DEBATE ON THE REDUCTION OF THE WAR TAX.

A Succession of Cats Let Out During the Wrangle—Democrats and Republicans Occasionally Forget Themselves—Important Truths Thus Leak Out and Illuminate the Situation.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 21.—The leading issue in Congress has been the House of Representatives bill 12,304, otherwise known as the War Revenue Reduction bill. In a nutshell, the bill, or rather the amendments proposed to the existing War Revenue act, proceeds from the theory that, what with the "close of the war," and the existing surplus, the War Revenue act can and should be reduced by the amount of \$10,000,000. In point of fact, the debates have resolved themselves into what may be called the "letting out of a succession of cats."

CAT NO. I.

The first cat to leap out was that the Administration is fully aware that the war is not ended. The Administration spokesmen were taken at their word.

"You say that the war is ended," was called out to them. "Why not repeat the whole War Revenue act?" The onslaught upon these lines was powerful. It brought out admission after admission until the cat was out in full. The Administration may pretend to belittle the resistance offered by the Filipino patriots, it knows, however, that this resistance has all the power and force of war.

CAT NO. II.

Close upon the heels of this jumped out another, to wit, that the Administration is trying to defray other than war expenses with the War Revenue Tax.

The Administration feels a tremendous pressure for "pap" it knows that the regular revenue would not suffice; a Pap Revenue bill would sound decidedly bad. Assailed on all sides by the advocates of, at least, greater reductions in the War Revenue act, the Administration Representatives incisively dropped the hint that there were many bills sure to come up and requiring loads of money. Among these bills, the "River and Harbor Appropriations" figured conspicuously. It was an ugly cat. Everybody knows how corrupt are the sources and objects of these "River and Harbor bills." They are regular Santa Claus grab bags. This cat, ugly tho' it was, had no effect in concealing. It had the desired effect of silencing the Democratic demagogues who were riding the retrenchment hobby-horse. They all expect their "prize."

CAT NO. III.

Buf, ugly as this cat was, the third was much worse. The Democracy, true to the long-earedness of the party, was actually acting the "enfant terrible." Its opposition was so dull and clumsy that it compelled revelations, which it had at much interest to conceal as its adversaries whom it styled "plutocratic."

This revelation or cat was that the interest due on the war bonds was fully \$5,000,000 dollars, and the reasons, arising from the war and due "by a grateful nation to her brave soldiers," would run up acutely, not probably, but actually to \$30,000,000. One "very" feels "dizzy" at such statements, and wonders which end he is standing on. According to habits of thought one is in the habit of looking upon the crippled soldier as an invalid. This seems to be a mistake. The invalid evidently is the bond holder. If, upon the class that did not loan, but gave to her outright its health and limbs, a "grateful nation" bestows only \$3,000,000, how wretchedly crippled must not that class be which, having only loaned its money, has \$8,000,000 given to it by that same "grateful nation?" Evidently the bond-holder is the nation's pet ward. That cat leaped out with a bound full into the nation's face.

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PRESIDENTIAL VOTE,

Below is a translated list of the vote polled by the Socialist Labor Party and the Social Democracy in the land, as near as ascertainable:

S. L. P. S. D. P.	
Arizona	61
Arkansas	340
California	100
Colorado	714
Connecticut	938
Delaware	57
Florida	603
Georgia	24
Illinois	1,373
Indiana	663
Iowa	259
Kansas	1,605
Kentucky	399
Maine	878
Maryland	391
Massachusetts	2,610
Michigan	903
Minnesota	1,329
Missouri	1,294
Montana	116
Nebaska	38
New Hampshire	700
New Jersey	2,054
New York	12,322
North Dakota	518
Ohio	1,688
Oregon	235
Pennsylvania	2,336
Rhode Island	1,423
South Dakota	189
Tennessee	410
Texas	162
Utah	106
Virginia	160
Washington	1,066
West Virginia	286
Wisconsin	531
	34,191
	35,043

N. B.—In California the S. L. P. was not on the official ballot. The vote there was written on each ballot.

In Arizona and Nebraska the S. L. P. had no state ticket. The vote there entered was upon a local ticket in one county in each.

S. L. P. Enrollment in Brooklyn.

The result of the canvass of the party enrollment last fall in Brooklyn has been made public by the local Board of Elections. The total number of voters who declared their party preferences was 109,900. The Socialist Labor Party enrollment was 2,337.

The enrollment by Assembly Districts follows:

First	52
Second	60
Third	46
Fourth	59
Fifth	102
Sixth	142
Seventh	159
Eighth	78
Ninth	95
Tenth	40
Eleventh	70
Twelfth	132
Thirteenth	152
Fourteenth	118
Fifteenth	203
Sixteenth	82
Seventeenth	25
Eighteenth	88
Nineteenth	159
Twenty-first	321
	2,337

S. L. P. Vote in Woburn.

WOBURN, Mass., Dec. 18.—The S. L. P. vote at the municipal election here is as follows:

For Mayor—John F. Bradley, 61.
For Board of Public Works—John W. Kegan, 75.
For Aldermen—James L. McDermott, 28; Cornelius J. O'Brien, 130; John A. Johnson, 127; Min. H. O'Brien, 137; Joseph D. Schugel, 80; John O'Donnell, 198.

The New Haven debate on Trade Unionism, taken down stenographically on B. F. Kehard, and published in the Sunday, Dec. 2, issue of the DAILY PEOPLE, is now going through the Labor News Company press in pamphlet form, capiously annotated.

This pamphlet edition is invaluable to all the seriously disposed in the Labor Movement; it contains 64 pages.

Send orders to the Labor News Company, 2-6 New Haven street, this city. Price 5 cents a copy; \$3 a hundred.

Next of the debate, these Republicans faced and downed the pretences of the Democrats that the tax on beer was paid by the consumer. The Democrats wanted the tax wholly abolished or at least reduced to the old \$1 tax, and they almost shed tears while pleading for the poor workingman and his glass of beer. When rogue fall out honest folks come

GROWTH OF SOCIETY.

SOME OF ITS ASPECTS DURING THE MIDDLE AGES.

Enfranchisement of the Peasantry—Methods of Production—Trade Guilds, Their Use and the Causes for Their Existence.

The organized risings of the peasantry, such as the Peasants' War in England, the great insurrections of the Jacquerie in France, and of the serfs in Germany, were the attempts of the proletariat of the Middle Ages to obtain some improvement in their lot apart from the traders, whose position was of course very different. The serf of the Middle Ages shows but as a sorry figure, indeed, in all countries, as compared with that splendid chivalry, whose resplendent armor and noble individual prowess have been the theme of so much glorification. Yet, for centuries, these despised churls, provided in the form of food and wares, furnished by the number of days' work due to their lord for nothing, the means of providing all the magnificence which decked out the baron, the abbot, and the fair ladies of the court. Everywhere, however, at the height of the feudal domination, the handcraftsman, more especially at the later period which preceded its disruption, was a free man. The contrast between the position of such a man or the yeoman and villeins, was most striking in every respect. The latter were mere chattels; the former were independent men; more independent perhaps in England than in the Low Countries, as body have ever been economically, socially, and politically, at any other period of our history.

For in England—and this it is which renders that country the most fitting field for the study of modern development—the enfranchisement of the peasantry, and their settlement upon the land as free yeomen, took place at a much earlier date than in any other nation. These yeomen were in fact the stay of England for several hundred years, and their influence can be traced in national history and before the enfranchisement of the serfs as a body. The great rising, however, of the fourteenth century, secured for the mass of English people that freedom and well-being which made common Englishmen for at least two centuries the envy of Europe. Serfdom was almost entirely done away, men were masters of themselves, their land, and their labor. Laborers and craftsmen were alike well-paid, well-fed people, who were not only in possession of the land which they might occupy and till, but were also entitled to rights of pasture over large tracts of common land since robbed from their descendants by the meanness of an usurping class who made laws in their own favor to sanctify pillage.

Production being carried on for use, though only in primitive fashion with small implements adapted to individual handling, most of the products being consumed or worked up into rude manufactures on the farm itself, only the superfluity after yeoman and his family were well fed and well clothed came into exchange. And this exchange, itself like the production, was carried on by the individual. Craftsmen were economically as independent as the yeomen and free laborer, though laws were early made (without effect) to limit their powers of combination, and to keep down the rates of wages which either they or the agricultural laborers could command. They also were in control of their means of production, and what they made was the result of their own labor on raw materials, which they in turn exchanged for other goods made by men as free as themselves, or were paid for by the lord or the abbot. Still the relations were in the main personal, and not pecuniary; still a man who earned wages for a day was by no means forced to compete with his neighbor for hire by an employer as a wage-earner all his life through.

The trade guilds, which in the first instance were thoroughly democratic in their constitution, protected the craftsmen against unregulated competition, or from the attempt to oppress them in any way. Moreover, as it was easy then for a laborer to obtain a patch of land and to remove himself wholly or in part from the wage-earners, so a journeyman apprentice starting in life as a mere worker could and generally did attain to the dignity of a master craftsman in mature age. The amount of capital to be amassed ere a man could work for himself was so small that no serious barrier was placed between the journeyman and independence; besides, the arrangements of the guilds were such that wherever a craftsman wandered he was received as a brother of his particular craft. Although also the rest of Europe was behind England in the settlement of the people on the soil, the craft-guilds were even more important in the Low Countries and part of Germany in the Middle Ages than in England. Thus it should appear that in the record of the feudal development the period reached in each country when the peasant was a free man working for himself upon the land and the craftsman was likewise a free man master of his own means of production, represents the time of greatest individual prosperity of the people.

England, where this independence was on the whole earliest developed, presented on this very account a marked contrast to France, where the risings of the Jacquerie had not resulted so well for the people as the English peasant insurrection. In Germany and Italy the rural population was much behind the townspeople, though in Spain, the early communal forms being there retained, the peasants were better off. The really important point is that, under such conditions of production as those described, where the means of production are at the disposal of the individual who also controls the exchange of the superfluous, perfect economic freedom, as well as political freedom or freedom before the law, is possible and indeed cannot be avoided. Men then had something worth fighting for at home and abroad, and

were quite ready to spend their own blood and their own money in fighting for a cause which they held to be their own. Vicarious sacrifice of the lives of mercenary troops and posterity's money was, however, to their minds; they took note that such methods of warfare were at once cowardly and mean.

The Church as a collective body supplemented the needs of this thoroughly individualist society. The services rendered by the monasteries, priories, and nunneries to the people in the shape of constant employment on their estates, of almsgiving, maintenance of hospitals, schools, inns, maintenance of roads, have been systematically deprecated by middle-class historians; but these bodies were of the highest value in the economy of the Middle Ages, more especially in England, and the lands which they held were used and their revenues applied in such manner that during their most flourishing period the noblest institutions were kept up by their aid. Permanent pauperism was unknown, and vagrancy was charitably restrained so long as these institutions were in existence. The services rendered by them in the direction of art and letters it is needless to repeat.

But at the risk of being compelled to repeat later what is urged here, it is well to consider at this point the effect which the full development of the individual man and his power over his own tools, materials, and the objects he worked upon, had upon art. The ordinary opinion seems to be that art is bred and sustained by the luxury resulting from the present state of society, with its monstrous contrasts of riches and poverty. A very brief survey will be enough to show the falsity of this notion. The slave-served society of the classical peoples, intellectual and highly-refined but simple in life, and free in Greece at any rate, from what is now called luxury, looked upon art as a necessity, and found no serious obstacle in the way of surrounding the daily life of man with beauty. The rigid caste system of the feudal hierarchy kept up the most violent arbitrary distinctions between classes, but had no temptation to extend those distinctions to the minds and imaginations of men, and no means whereby it could do so. Thus the artisan was left free to express, according to his capacity, the ideas which he shared with the noble, developing as a class a hereditary skill and dexterity in the handling of the simple tools of the time.

DEMOCRATS BACK DEBSITES.

The doped Debsites will tell you a long story about how the Democrats and Republicans in the campaign of last year "united" to defeat Chase. It was this "union" that caused his election last year, and the Democrats caused the "uniting" for that purpose. This year it was otherwise. The campaign of 1900 opened by the Republicans placing in nomination a full municipal ticket. The Democrats followed suit, but ex-Mayor Sheldon who was the Democratic candidate, declined at the eleventh hour. In his letter of declination Mr. Sheldon said that he took himself out of the way, that when the leaders found him out he was fired out of the job.

THE HAVERHILL GAME.

A VIVID RESUME OF A THREE YEARS' CONFLICT.

The Passing of the Reactionists—The Men, the Methods, and the Crimes Against the Working Class—How the Socialist Labor Party Withstood a Tremendous Tide of Opposition.

In Haverhill, the "party" of a "million votes for 'Tops,"—or its Butcher-shop annex, now sleeps the sleep that knows no waking. It is buried beneath the vote of the class that it sought to mislead in the future, as it had in the past. The end has come. No longer will the Debsites be a political factor in Haverhill; defeated, disengaged, torn by internal strife and dissension, which its "broadness," and tolerance, brought forth it makes its exit from the political stage in Haverhill, where none are so poor as to do it honor.

It is less than three years ago that Carey and Chase set up in this city a branch of the Social Democracy. How they did it well known to the readers of the DAILY PEOPLE. It was going to wipe the Socialist Labor Party off the face of the earth. It was an American movement which met the wants of the American people who would never tolerate the "bigotry," intolerance, and narrow-mindedness of the Socialist Labor Party. With this letter off credit the freak was ushered in.

Immediately after the birth of this political miscarriage, it started to wobble, and it has wobbled badly ever since, until, thanks to the power over which the Debsites has no control, it was lowered into its grave on Tuesday, December 4, A. D., 1900. Last year Chase received 2,500 votes. This year he got less than 2,000 and was defeated.

EXIT GORDON, ENTER LAMONT.

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WEEKLY PEOPLE.

Published by the Socialist Labor Party,
at 24 and 6 New Beale St.,
New York.
P.O. Box 1576, Telephone, 129 Franklin.
EVERY SATURDAY.
TERMS TO SUBSCRIBERS.
Invariably in advance

Single Copy 22
Six months 25
One year \$0.50

Bundle rates: Less than 100 copies, 1 cent a copy; 100 to 500 copies, 1/2 cent a copy; 500 or more, 1/4 cent a copy.

As far as possible, rejected communications
will be returned if so desired and
stamps are enclosed.

Entered as second class matter at the
New York Post Office, June 27, 1900.

SOCIALIST VOTE IN THE UNITED STATES.

In 1888.....	2,068
In 1892.....	21,157
In 1896.....	36,564
In 1900.....	34,191



Build up heroic lives, and all
Be like like the sheathen sabre,
Ready to flash out at God's call,
O Chivalry of Labor!

Triumph and Toil are twins, and aye
Joy suns the cloud of sorrow;
And 'tis the Martydom to-day
Brings victory to-morrow.

GERALD MASSEY.

S. L. P. VOTE IN THE NATION.

The Socialist Labor Party vote, as finally ascertained and announced in these columns, is 34,191. These figures are about 2,000 below the mark reached at the previous Presidential contest—the only contest by which the national strength of the Party can be gauged. Comparing these naked figures in a superficial way, there would seem to be a loss registered. Upon broader inspection, the figures register progress.

Anyone familiar with the comparison of figures knows how misleading such comparisons are if limited to a short period. Such limited comparisons are a favorite device of capitalist jugglers with statistics. The law that underlies figures is, in that way, frequently turned into a caricature. This notably happens with the statistical computations by the aid of which official economists try to conceal the law of values. Socialists know that, in order to ascertain this law, the comparison must extend through a period long enough to take in and to neutralize perturbing influences. The same principle applies to inquiries intended to establish the law of motion that underlies a political party of revolution. To ascertain whether the Presidential vote of the Socialist Labor Party this year registers progress or decline, a period covering more than four years is needed. Indeed, no correct conclusion can be reached without extending the period for comparison back eight years. Only by doing that, can the effect of recurring perturbing influences be measured, and thereby enable an opinion regarding the Party's law of motion to be formed.

In 1892 and in 1900 the Socialist Labor Party encountered in its course a perturbing force that did not exist in 1890, and that marks out those two Presidential years as the real epochs for comparison.

In '92 the Populist Movement surged up. It is well-known that its immediate effect was to sweep out of existence a number of the Socialist Labor Party organizations. They proved themselves just so much rubbish. The Populist Movement claimed to be Socialist, if not Socialist. Many an individual in the Party had joined without being grounded in Socialism; and the sentimentalities that had prompted their conduct kept them from learning, after they were in. To all these, Populism was sympathetic; it attracted them by natural affinity; and over they went, the exodus being greatly aided by the breezes that rose from the Democratic press, which, justly scenting in Populism danger to the Republican party, proclaimed Populism as the "Socialism of America." Under these adverse, doubly adverse conditions, the Party came out of the Presidential fray of '92 with 21,157 votes.

In all essential particulars the conditions that confronted the Party this year were the same as those of '92, with this important difference that, in 1900, the difficulties of '92 reappeared in an immensely aggravated form. It lies in the nature of things that the more likely a lie sounds the greater are its chances of success. It is the same as with false coin. The counterfeit received from a stranger may be scrutinized, while that received from a reputed friend has all the chances of being accepted without examination. The political lie about Populism being Socialism could fetch only the least guarded: this year's political lie, however, about the Social Democracy being Socialism was infinitely more insidious: it proceeded from sources whose previous connection with the Socialist Labor Party gave it a color of truth, when thereto was added the preposterous

Kangaroo lie of the "Socialists being united" under the Debs hat, and the never paralleled support given to the lie by the Republican press, a conception may be formed of the greatly increased vehemence of the '92 gale, encountered in 1900. All this notwithstanding, the Party polled this year 34,191 votes, or a clear gain of over 13,000!

At all points there is a close parallel between social and biological phenomena. In biology, there is no growth except at the cost of infinite tests of strength. At this season, overhead, there shines in the midnight sky the brilliant constellation of Orion. In its three-gemmed Belt a fierce conflict is in progress. Meteors of great body are whirling around it. The attractive force of these are disintegrating from the Belt all the elements of less adhesive qualities. But the meteors themselves are undergoing their test. They, too, are losing and yielding to the Belt whatever is of less affinity with themselves and of greater affinity with the stars. This exchange presents the aspect of a shower of fire. And the turmoil will continue until the stronger, because more logical, of the two has wholly disintegrated the weaker. The victory is assured to Orion's Belt: the meteors are dissolving.

What the Belt of Orion is to-day in the biologic evolution of the starry host, the Socialist Labor Party is in the sociologic evolution of politics in the land. Political meteors of varying power are periodically rushing within its radius of attraction, meaning its destruction, testing its strength, absorbing elements from, yet adding power to it, while themselves disintegrating. One such fierce meteor whirled around the Socialist Labor Party in '92, and went to pieces; another is now circling the Party's path, and already crumbling, obedient to the law that has but death for the incohesive in principle as in matter.

In the midst of this hurly in the nation's political formations, readily yielding all that is alien and quickly absorbing all that is kindred, the political constipation of the Socialist Labor Party moves onward on its track, ever sounder, ever stronger, ever fitter to achieve the man's work of its mission.

THE CUDAHY EVENT.

It is not an incident, it is an event that happened in Omaha last week when the son of a millionaire was kidnapped, and successfully held for a \$25,000 ransom.

Kidnapping belongs to the category of crime; and crime-making full allowance for the material needs that it is born of, and the extremes that want may drive man to—has been well summarized as a symptom of weakness, physical or intellectual, if not both. Hence, despite the "nerve" needed for the commission of crime, the criminal is essentially nerveless: despite the intellectual fecundity needed for the conception of crime, the criminal is notedly puerile. The truly vigorous being is nerveful enough to resist temptation, and has intellect enough to reason himself away from criminal acts. The Cudahy event—the commission of a crime in a populous city under circumstances that betoken extraordinary physical energy and intellectual powers—does not shatter the theory regarding crime and criminals; what it does is to mark an era when, thanks to the process of capitalism, the "Crime microbe," so to speak, has begun to find fresh areas of the human family subject to its devastating influence.

The routine nature of the Omaha police and detective bureaus is betrayed by their directing their searching thoughts among the underfed, underclothed human beings, whom Cudahy's system of slave driving has kept down in a physically and intellectually emaciated condition, from early childhood up, in his Omaha packing establishments. The criminals are of different order. The kidnapped Cudahy's story, making his captors out low and vulgar people, bears intrinsic evidence of unreliability. The men who conceived, planned and carried out the scheme to a successful termination, have written, said and done enough to designate their sphere of life as the Stock Exchange; the Bank Presidents' private office; the daring financial manipulator's sanctum. There is where the kidnappers are to be looked for.

Time was when men of such physical and intellectual fibre—the fibre of the beast, the intellect of the human—, finding a virgin continent spread before their feet, and Europe furnishing them with hosts of proletarians, juicy and woolly to squeeze and clip, developed into the Brigham Youngs, the Collie P. Huntingtons, the Jay Goulds, the Rockefellers, the Crokers and scores of such others. Those days are gone by. The field is no longer virgin; the jungles are all occupied. Moreover, the development of capitalism is recolling upon its own pets; these are now put to it. Altered circumstances alter methods. The result is "Cudahy Events," with more, no doubt to follow.

The "Cudahy Event" rings up the curtain to a drama with America as the stage, the XX Century as the time, and

the conflict of the "Human mind in the Human body" with the "Human mind in the Beast body," or of Socialism with Capitalism, as the momentous solemn plot.

SUPERFLUOUS, OR MISCHIEF.
VOUS—WHICH?

The DAILY PEOPLE of the 12th instant quoted the following passage from an article by Margaret Haile in the Chicago, Ill., "Social Democratic Herald" of the previous November 17:

"I know a politician who knows nothing about Socialism beyond the way to pronounce the name, who declares he is going to run on the Social Democratic ticket in Massachusetts next year, and as he is backed by one of the largest corporations in the State, I suppose he can do it if he wants to."

The "Social Democratic Herald" is the official organ of the Social Democratic party; Margaret Haile is an esteemed member of that party. Accordingly, the testimony in this case answers all the requisites to the validity of evidence. The evidence is inestimable. It gives conclusive proof of the structural impotence of the Social Democratic Party as a revolutionary party. As a consequence, it disproves the leading charge against the Socialist Labor Party organization, to the tune of which charge the Social Democratic Party was set up; it demonstrates the structural soundness of the S. L. P. and it furnishes fresh corroborative evidence of the superfluity of the S. D. P.

A political organization, that is an emanation of a social system in power, needs no guards for its safety. Such political organizations are merely reformatory. The social system in power is of the nature of a "main question," to which such parties are like "amendments," that must be in line with it, and neither may nor ever attempt its overthrow. The case is wholly different with political organizations, that, so far from being emanations of the social system in power, are emanations of a hostile social system that seeks power. Such political parties are not "amendments" to, they are of the nature of "substitutes" for the "main question." With such political bodies the provisions for safety cannot be too numerous or too stringent. Of all this Margaret Haile's testimony gives ample proof.

What would it matter if some one, knowing nothing of Republicanism beyond the way to pronounce the name, were to walk off with a Republican party nomination? What would it matter if some one, knowing nothing of Democracy beyond the way to gong out the name, were to capture a convention of the Democratic party and stand forth its candidate? Evidently it would matter nothing. The social system of which both the Republican and the Democratic parties are political emanations—the Capitalist System—would run no serious danger. Accordingly, the provisions for safety on the part of these political bodies may be, in fact, of the loosest. On the other hand, it goes without saying that the case is radically different with a political party whose purpose is, not to tinker variations upon the Capitalist System, but to overthrow it. Such a body is wrecked before even it is well launched, if its standard can at any moment fall a ready prey to outside influences and purposes.

The political organization that is to do battle with Capital, overthrow it, emancipate the Working Class, and rear the dome of the Socialist Republic, must be a body of self-imposed strictest discipline. It must be a fortress guarded by ditch, drawbridge and portcullis; watched over by eternally vigilant, ay, suspicious, sentinels; and protected by virile forces, armed cap-a-pie, ready at all times to resist invasion. Such an organization may, as the Socialist Labor Party is, be open to the charge of "narrow" and "intolerant" from the unthinking, or the designing; but never could it cut the woeful picture of impotence, presented by Margaret Haile's Social Democracy, standing with arms listlessly hanging by its side, and seeing the foe "walk in and help himself."

The test of a revolutionary organization, with a serious and historic mission to fulfill, is its power to preserve its purity. Self-admittedly, the Social Democratic party lacks the power. Either such power is unnecessary to it—and then the Social Democratic party is not the revolutionary body that it claims to be; or such power is necessary to it—and then the Social Democratic party is unfit for its task.

In the former supposition, the Social Democratic party is superfluous: there are now quite enough parties for capitalist tinkering in the field.

In the latter supposition, the Social Democratic party is a political abortion: there is the Socialist Labor Party in the field, with its foundations deep and sound, its citadel unassailable, its colors beyond the reach of the pollution of Reaction.

THE DURYEA WILL CONTEST.

The County Court House at Mineola, L. I., has for a number of days been the theatre of a continuous performance. The star actors are the Surrogate and the

three daughters of the deceased millionaire Edgar C. Duryea. The plot of the play is the breaking of the dead father's will. He left his property to his three daughters object.

The plan of the attack is the "character" of the testator. The testimony is voluminous upon the subject. The dead Duryea is shown to have been a reprobate in life; dissolute to an unspeakable degree; besides coarse, rude and vulgar to the point of hardly ever coming out of a discussion without the intervention of physical force. From the rulings of the Surrogate it appears that a "bad character" is good ground for setting aside a will. That may be good law; but—

"Edgar E. Duryea" is a name at which the working class grow pale.

He was a manufacturer of glucose at Glen Cove, L. I. About fifteen years ago his place became the center of stormy scenes. He cut down wages with savage cuts; he outraged his employees with a brutality that has been matchless; strikes he laughed at; bearing an American flag at the head of recurring processions he led whole squads of immigrants—freshly landed at Castle Garden and shipped to Glen Cove—from the station to his factory, to take the places of the men who quit work; as fast as these newcomers rebelled against the brutal, even indecent, treatment that he subjected them to, fresher squads of immigrants were imported, the American flag was pulled out again, was again unfurled at the station on the arrival of the train with the fresh squad of victims, and again floated at the head of the procession of these ill-starred beings to the "Duryea shambles." The man's dissoluteness, profanity, ruffianism, was an essential tool of production. With that he held his people long enough in subjection to squeeze what wealth he could out of them. He became a millionaire.

In view of the Surrogate's ruling, the question comes, If a bad character is good ground to deprive a testator of the right to dispose of "his own," by what process of moral reasoning is he allowed to keep in his ill-gotten gains that proprietary right, that is implied in the claim of his daughters, as heirs to his estate?

Edgar C. Duryea, as a typical capitalist, as a typical fleecer of the workingmen, either had rightful ownership or he had none.

If he had, he also had the right to dispose of his property as he chose.

If he had no such right of disposal, due to the "character" that aided him in his acquisition, then his estate belongs to the people at large, seeing that his victim could not now be traced.

Such interpretation of THE LAW would probably startle the Surrogate of Mineola, L. I. But he would not be the first magistrate in the history of the race startled at the voice of a HIGHER LAW, destined to overthrow the very tripod on which he functionates as oracle.

Opera, especially grand opera, is a great thing. The season in New York opened auspiciously Tuesday night, and that it was a thorough success is shown by the fact that the morning papers do as follows: They devote about two and three-quarter columns to a criticism of the music; a column to the acting; half a column to the mounting of the opera; and a little over twenty columns of gush to the society people who attended. There is no mention of the fact that many of the boxes were occupied by symphonies in disease contracted in midnight revels, and that the parquet was crowded by a harmonious blending of gangrene and gout. Whether the opera is a necessity of life, or simply a stage where the nits of society can strut and perk for publication, none of the papers tell us. But that the audience was the most important thing there, and that it pays best to mention it, that is shown by every sheet in New York.

It is a cheering sight at this cold season of the year to notice what skill men cover around the fires that are lighted for the purpose of melting tar or warming gravel in places where building is going on. We are surprised that Mr. Wayland of the "Appeal to Reason" has not yet discovered in this an evidence of "the growth of Socialism." Society is furnishing fires at which poor men and children can warm themselves until they are driven away! Society also furnishes the men and children, as are all commercial wars. It is a war in which capitalists seek to spread their disease of capitalism along their own line. The Boers first took the land by force, and now a stronger power is seeking to oust them. How long will last none can tell, but it is certain that it will last until advanced capitalism has everything worth taking.

The South African war has the longest end on record. Over six months ago the end was announced; and since that time the end has continued to arrive with startling regularity. Odds and ends of the end come in the form of news to the effect that more battles have been fought, more lives have been lost, and that more men are called for. The cost of the war can never be told. There may be the expenditures of the government, the loss of lives, and some summary of the wounded, but the suffering and the want of the working class—from among which those that die are taken—can never be realized. It is a most ignoble war, as are all commercial wars. It is a war in which capitalists seek to spread their disease of capitalism along their own line. The Boers first took the land by force, and now a stronger power is seeking to oust them. How long will last until advanced capitalism has everything worth taking.

It was a great scene, but the Rev. Initials Bliss had a greater. He knew that money was the source of all evil, and he knew that trade unions sometimes fell into evil ways. Their money must be the cause of it, so he would devote himself to striking at the root of the evil. He would go down to bed-rock, and remove as much of it as possible. As the strongest man in the company he would devote all his time, all his energy, and all his far-reaching knowledge to removing the treasures of these benighted unions. All the men in the company also felt the spirit move them to do the same thing.

There flowed from this numerous and grievous disturbances. When the Rev. Bliss broached his plan there was an uproar. The body rose against him. It moved towards him. It moved over him. When it stopped moving the remains of Bliss discovered that they could not oppose organized labor; they also discovered that when crusaders fall out, honest men stop paying dues.

always stumbles in its own way. The "Appeal to Reason" is the great New Zealand boomer, and every number is crowded with glowing reports of the happy conditions existing there. The New Zealand papers tell a different story. There have been enough accounts published in the DAILY PEOPLE to demonstrate the fact that the lot of the New Zealand wage-worker is like that of any other country. There are strikes, lockouts, laws declared unconstitutional, tramps, want and misery. Those who rushed there in hope of finding a North West passage to the cooperative commonwealth will be disappointed, and they will simply have their voyage for their trouble, and a knowledge that it is not socialism that Mr. Weyland credits as such. Still it is well. Australia is near by. The land of the Kangaroos will no doubt welcome this influx of its own particular product.

Mr. Bryan's threat to start a weekly paper has produced no convulsions in this old earth, nor has it occasioned a landslide of subscribers in his direction. It is just as well that Bryan should be an editor. If he really does the work himself, judging from his past performances, it will be the easiest way for him to slip out of sight. He has previously made a shy or two at fame with his pen, but all of them fell far short of expectations. This latest, and probably last, one that he makes, has been made because he wishes to earn a living. He has been a defeated presidential candidate now for over four years, and he is willing to step aside and give some one else an opportunity. He refused all offers to go on the stage or to become a preacher. He feared that he had too much money and too much intellect to do any of these things. He can rest assured that he will be successful in overcoming his bank account if he publishes a paper for any length of time. He may also rest assured that his intellect will probably spread thin even on one page of a weekly.

POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC.

The Seattle, Wash., "Post-Intelligencer" seeks to justify the plan that is now on foot in its State, charging \$10 for every candidate that is placed on the official ballot. The argument is that he will be successful in overcoming his bank account if he publishes a paper for any length of time. He may also rest assured that his intellect will probably spread thin even on one page of a weekly.

Will the "Post-Intelligencer" explain why it is fair to levy a tax for the expenses of going on the ballot, and not fair to tax the candidates for the expenses of counting the ballot?

Or will the "Post-Intelligencer" be fair enough to admit that its present \$10-tax scheme for going on the ballot is but a "first step," the last step on its lines being to tax candidates for all the election expenses?

Will the "Post-Intelligencer" be fair enough to admit that what it is doing is to tax the expenses of going on the ballot, and not fair to tax the candidates for the expenses of counting the ballot?

Or will the "Post-Intelligencer" be fair enough to admit that its present \$10-tax scheme for going on the ballot is but a "first step," the last step on its lines being to tax candidates for all the election expenses?

The "Volkszeitung" is becoming ghastly. This is a literal reproduction of one of its advertisements last Monday; we only omit the name of the firm:

A Merry Festive Christmas
Is wished to all the readers of the
"New Yorker Volkszeitung"

by
(Here follows firm's name.)

</div

CORRESPONDENCE.

Correspondents who prefer to appear in print under an assumed name, will attach such name to their communication, besides their own signature and address. None other will be recognized.

Organized Scaberry in Vancouver.

To the DAILY PEOPLE.—The following is an item from the Nanaimo, B. C. "Free Press":

"Another large accession to the long list of names on the application to be sent to the Minister of Militia by favor of Ralph Smith, M. P., was made on Saturday at City Hall. The Dominion Government offers to patriotic young men the chance to learn the use of the rifle and to acquire knowledge of military tactics, which will be extremely useful and beneficial even if never put to actual test in warfare," etc., etc.

This is a proposition to raise a militia company, endorsed by Ralph Smith, M. P., who is the labor leader elected by the miners. Of course it will be "extremely useful and beneficial," not to the working class, but to the capitalist mine owners of Nanaimo. In event of the miners going on strike at some future date, no doubt this militia will have a chance to use its "knowledge of military tactics" in intimidating and shooting down the said miners. Ralph Smith, M. P., is the foremost labor leader in Canada, was formerly a foreman in the mines and president of the Miners' Union. He is supposed to represent labor, but in the elections just closed was boasting the Liberal Party, with whom the Labor Party of Vancouver fused. Fourteen members met and voted on fusion: eight for and six against. Their action has been since repudiated by the Trades Labor Council. The editor of the labor paper in Vancouver, the "Independent," was also in favor of fusing and in fact acted as chairman at the Liberal meetings. When a Socialist tried to take the platform, he was met with cries of "throw him out." The Socialist challenged Ralph Smith to a debate, but was refused the privilege. Smith stated that the interests of the working class and capitalists were identical. He was responded to by groans from the Socialists. Thus are the workers hoodwinked at every election. Wishing you success.

SYMPATHIZER.

Vancouver, B. C., Dec. 11.

Individual Wealth.

To the DAILY PEOPLE.—Speaking of reduction in wages reminds me of the same circumstances that happened in the winter. I was working in the Carnegie steel mill at Bessemer. We were receiving \$1.44 per hundred tons of finished steel rails, working eight hours a turn. That went on until they built a new mill and new and better machinery; then there was a reduction in wages of 10 per cent. So all the Pittsburg and capitalist papers said. Consequently there was the big strike of 1888, and the pure and simple union was managing the strike (the company had Pinkertons there—that was before the Homestead strike), and some of the leading pure and simple union men went to the company and agreed that if they would give them certain rights they would break the strike, and of course the strike was broken. Told out by the pure and simple union men. The company required us to sign an agreement for \$1.10 per hundred tons for three years, of twelve hours a turn. \$1.44 - \$1.10 = 34¢; a difference of four hours more a day or night; as the case might be; and 34 cents less on a hundred tons.

Well, we worked those three years, then there was another reduction of 10 or 12 per cent., so the papers said. Carnegie said through the "Press" that the reduction was on the account of low prices of steel.

But Andy had just donated to Allegheny City that institution of knowledge, that monument unto himself, the Carnegie Library, and of course he saw to it that his dividends were not lowered, and this reduction (of 10 or 12 per cent. mind you) built the library and increased his income to a considerable extent. This time his wage slaves took the reduction like a baby would milk. This \$1.44 three years ago, now \$1.10, was cut to 60 cents, a difference of 50 cents on the hundred tons to us. Afterwards it was reduced to 50 cents. I could not tell what it is now, as I dusted.

This is how the public is misled and imposed upon through the papers as to the real truth of anything pertaining to labor. Andy, the "great philanthropist," is still building monuments for the preservation of the name of Carnegie, doing it by the sweating of thousands of slaves, increasing his profits through the toilers' heart's blood, until the present day his income is \$40,000,000 a year.

Think you that a man can rise from \$1.20 a week in the beginning of life to the enormous sum of \$40,000,000 in the space of half a century of time? Think you that this can be accomplished through justice to all mankind? No; I say No! Unless by the crushing, stoning, starving, and killing of his fellow beings.

And here is another example of the rise of individual wealth: H. C. Frick rose from almost nothing, as it appears in the abandoned lawsuit that he paid for his interests in the Carnegie Company in actual cash, just \$191.80. He may be regarded as a successful business man, for his interests amount to a considerable number of millions. But we have not forgotten the great coke strike of Braddock or Homestead. And he will have to build other monuments besides twenty-story office buildings and 750,000 residences, or make restitution to the masses that they have robed, and tell that which they have and give to the poor, or they will not be sufficiently rewarded in this world's goods to meet their heavenly father. For the bible says that it is easier for a camel to enter the eye of a needle than it is for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven.

G. A. S.
Allegheny, Pa., December 17.

A Muddle in Holyoke.

To the DAILY PEOPLE.—This city has a celebrated political case on hand which puzzles the lawyers and politicians not a little.

At the late municipal elections Decem-

Rep.; John R. Allan, Dem.; Moritz E. Ruther, S. L. P.; Herman Neumann (cigar manufacturer), S. D. P.

This is the Ward where the S. L. P. has for years struggled for supremacy and has been the second strongest party for over four years. In 1890 Rutherford was elected by a plurality of 80 votes, and defeated by 56 votes last year. This year, owing to the attempt of the S. D. P. to kill the S. L. P. in its stronghold by setting up a rival nominee, the result was that Allan, the Democratic candidate, who is a young grocery clerk, was elected by a majority over all candidates of 81 votes, although the ward is considered a Republican ward. Now, then, Herbert Clark, the Republican candidate and present Alderman from Ward 3, has petitioned for a recount on the ground that Allan is not a citizen of the United States. On investigation the fact has been disclosed that Allan's father became a citizen illegally by false testimony of a witness in 1881. The father is dead, and young Allan votes upon his father's citizen papers. Allan has made application to be naturalized and hopes to be seated as Alderman under the provisions of the City Charter, which says that the Board of Aldermen is the judge of the qualifications of its own members to a seat in the Aldermanic chamber. The Board of Aldermen, having become Democratic by the election of 13 Democratic Aldermen against 7 Republicans, it seems that Allan is sure of a seat. The Republicans, on the other hand, have the majority in the present Board of Aldermen by a ratio of 13 to 8; and as they have to attest to the election of the new Board they are now trying to show that Allan was not eligible as a candidate and that Clark who received the second highest vote shall be counted in. A hearing will be held by the Board of Registrars on Monday, December 17. The S. L. P. will be represented by comrade M. J. O'Connor, attorney-at-law, our late candidate for city clerk.

REPORTER.

Holyoke, Mass., Dec. 10.

Our "Basket Picnic" in the Philippines.

To the DAILY PEOPLE.—Enclosed is a copy of a letter written to one of my sisters by a soldier who is a friend of my family, but who is now in the Philippine Islands. In making the transcription I have left out the names of towns, as well as dates, and some other statements so as to conceal the identity of the soldier, and safeguard him from persecution on the part of the Government that lured him, with promises of a "basket picnic," into the trap he is now in. I also wish both my name and address to remain secret.

X.
* * *, December 16, 1900.

P. L., Oct. 20, 1900.

My Dear Friend:

Yours of June 26 and July 31 both received October 24 at — while I was on my way here, I got seven other letters besides yours, so I will have to be brief in answering them as I am kept so busy and chased around so much I hardly know on which end I am standing. I am just being worked to death. Five days ago I was taken down with fever, but until yesterday (Sunday) I had to work just as usual. I am feeling a little better to-day, but to-morrow I go out to — I don't know whether I will stand it or not.

What would I not give to be near home and an American drug store where I could get what simple remedies I want. A worse or rotterner farce does not exist than the Medical Department of the U. S. Army. I keep away from them as long as I can.

The papers in the States are saying that we are making great progress and things are quieting down, but a greater lie was never published. Much as I hate to say it, I actually believe the Gugges are really getting the best of it.

Although over 1,200 more troops have been landed here within the month, a reign of terror exists. They have broken out all over the island, with plenty of men, guns and ammunition and if the people in the United States knew of one-tenth of the number of soldiers killed and wounded they would open their eyes in wonder. A few days ago, down at — (my old station), a thousand "niggers" did some bad work among the Americans. They killed the First Lieutenant and five more men besides twenty-nine cavalry horses, and had the Americans go back on the run. Lieut. —'s body has not yet been sent in by the insurrecto General as it is horribly chopped up.

The insurrectos also wounded fifteen men besides capturing the doctor and eight other men, but whom they turned loose after giving each a proclamation that the term of the present commissioner will expire January 1, and Mr. Walter A. Hammond, having been strongly urged by his many friends, has consented to have his name presented as a candidate for the position.

TO EMPLOYERS OF LABOR AND WAGE EARNERS.

Gentlemen:

We, the undersigned committee, take the liberty of addressing you respecting the coming change of officers in the Department of Labor for this State.

The term of the present commissioner will expire January 1, and Mr. Walter A. Hammond, having been strongly urged by his many friends, has consented to have his name presented as a candidate for the position.

Mr. Hammond is a member of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, and held the position of Assistant Labor Commissioner under the administration of Governors Nelson and Clough.

During his term of office he proved himself to be a conservative man, imbued with the highest conception of the duties devolving upon him and worthy of the main soldiers' quarters, right in the heart of the town. The murderers had thrown a noose over his head, pulling it tight around his neck, so he could make no outcry.

For the sake of my folks I would like to get back home again. For the sake of the pleasure it would give me, I would like to be back, BUT rather than go through this misery, this "hell on earth" condition of things, I'd gladly welcome a mouser, or several of them, in the right place the first thing on the trip to-morrow.

I don't care very much what happens to me. I have prayed for a bad wound and would welcome the loss of a hand or foot, or half a lung—anything bad enough to get me out of the Army and leave me an expense to the Government. Otherwise I will be of little use to myself or any one else on getting from here. Even if I were to go back to the States now it would be some time before I could BEGIN to do anything. What the country and climate don't do, the Government surely does.

You have the wrong idea of a furlough. A furlough is a leave of absence with pay. Furloughs are only given to

their real values in the Worker's Republic? Well, that is done now, if we take into account the fluctuations due to changes in supply and demand and competition as Karl Marx so clearly shows in this criticism of George Weston's anti-trade union arguments in "Value, Price and Profit" obtainable from the New York Labor News Company. He also shows that the capitalist's profits are realized by selling commodities AT THEIR VALUES, after the capitalist class: he is ready to betray the class to which he belongs, and has been a scoundrel long enough to have lost all sense of shame in the matter; so he makes his appeal to the employer direct—to the very man whom he would be in opposition to if the "labor" bureaus was not a fraud—and refers to his past record as proof of his servile qualities. Really, he ought to get the job.

Meanwhile, intelligent and class-conscious workingmen realize that if they want a labor bureau in Minnesota, that will guard their interests, they will have to get it by electing a Socialist Labor Party governor, and that they can get it in no other way.

ARIEL.
Minneapolis, Minn., Dec. 12.

A Protest Worth Notice.

To the DAILY PEOPLE.—Allow me to enter my emphatic protest against the approval, sanction, or sale by the Socialist Labor Party of Sprague's "Socialism from Genesis to Revelations," Vail's or any other so-called Socialist publication that does not clearly and vigorously teach the class struggle.

My experience in a number of cases with those who have read books of this character is, first, that they almost invariably take to dreaming, and refuse to go into the scientific study of Socialism, and the exceptions are brought around by an amount of slugging and clubbing that would drive to despair anyone but a class-conscious Socialist.

Books of this sentimental character breed freaks by the hundred, and the S. L. P. should fire them all, bag and baggage.

Better leave the minds of the proletarian a wide open to the right medicine, and so have active appetites already in operation in the army, and the man who sells poison outside of the lines will do business in place of the previous arrangement for selling liquor inside the lines.

It is the same way with the closing up of the saloon and providing no substitute. The most promising effort towards temperance reform is that which looks to the substitution of places of resort in lieu of the saloons.

But the closing of the post canteen with the simple result of sending the soldier out to the dive beyond the lines of the reservation, has not made for temperance in the army heretofore, and will not now.

The work is not half done with closing the canteen, and the friends of temperance should exert themselves with unusual energy to provide as a substitute a soldiers' club and equip it with those things which will make it as attractive as possible in competition with the saloon outside the lines.

Looked at from a Socialist point of view the so-called temperance movement, like every "reform" movement, is nothing but straining at gnats and a swallowing of camels.

The paper quoted is an ultra-capitalistic one, and consequently, not in the least interested in exterminating the liquor traffic. But the circumstance that quite a number of people have come to look upon the traffic as an evil, which it certainly is, and want to abolish it, forces the paper, like a respectable sheet, once in a while to assume an advisory attitude. But why give advice to the best of getting rid of the liquor traffic, when its interests are in the opposite direction?

The capitalist class and its papers know that it is very little harm the temperance people can do to capitalism by just fighting one of its minor effects; they will gladly prefer that harm, and without grumbling stand the expense connected therewith to running the risk of having them discover the real cause or root of the evil—the capitalist social system.

And they willingly join with them in the search for sham causes of the failures of the temperance work. "As long as the appetite lasts the saloon will exist."

True. But, if liquor is an unnatural beverage, "poison," the appetite for it must necessarily be unnatural; and it can certainly not be created by so trivial a cause as the lack of a club room, which can be proved by the great number of the people who, although possessing all the domestic comforts and social advantages imaginable, are addicted to the use of intoxicants.

Unnatural appetites are caused mainly by unnatural modes of living. We can

not imagine man choosing voluntarily unnatural modes of living any more than his cousins, the animals. He does so

only because the material conditions surrounding him compel him to. In a civilized state those conditions become primarily of a social nature, i. e., the social conditions determine what kind of people the members of society shall be.

When the temperance people fail in their efforts of exterminating the liquor evil, it is not for lack of club rooms,

but for lack of social justice. The capitalist system, with its unnaturally exhausting work, mental as well as manual, with its competition and wars, is what causes the physical, mental and moral condition from which grow unnatural appetites. A Comparison:

A contagious disease visits a community.

Many people succumb to it, but not all; why not, when the disease is dangerous?

Because it can not attack a person unless his body is in a weak enough condition.

Likewise, a person who, to a certain extent, has escaped the harmful physical, mental and moral effects of capitalism, may grow up a total abstainer,

even though he may be surrounded with devotees to the bottle.

I should like to hear from the comrades on this matter.

LETTER BOX.

Off-Hand Answers to Correspondents.

No questions will be considered that come in anonymous letters. All letters must carry a bona fide signature and address.

N. N. C., WATERBURY, CT.—We give it up! We don't know what "Communist Anarchist" stands for, and don't believe anybody else does.

C. K. SEATTLE, WASH.—You have it up! We don't know what "Socialist Anarchist" stands for.

R. M. D., INDIANAPOLIS, IND.—We have no idea whether Mr. Eugene V. Debs is the owner of the "Debs Publishing Company, Terre Haute, Ind." It may be he, but we may know some other person.

It may be some one of the Chamberlain family in England, where one member is president, another main stockholder, and a third treasurer of the gun powder companies that are making hay while the bees fly sun shinings, and who are helping to keep it up shining.

G. H. D., INDIANAPOLIS, IND.—We have no idea whether Mr. Eugene V. Debs is the owner of the "Debs Publishing Company, Terre Haute, Ind." It may be he, but we may know some other person.

It may be some one of the Chamberlain family in England, where one member is president, another main stockholder, and a third treasurer of the gun powder companies that are making hay while the bees fly sun shinings, and who are helping to keep it up shining.

E. R. D., INDIANAPOLIS, IND.—We have no idea whether Mr. Eugene V. Debs is the owner of the "Debs Publishing Company, Terre Haute, Ind." It may be he, but we may know some other person.

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C. T. E., ITHACA, N. Y.—All that you say is beside the question. The matter is not this way. Either the economic and other conditions condone and render the times ripe for Socialism or they do not.

If the times are not ripe, then it is vain to proceed with any sort of agitation whatever. The "agitation" would have to be of the sort that preceded the Reformation, and that is religious agitation. The S. L. P. or any bona fide socialist party may be premature. If you hold that view, your conclusion should be that the S. L. P. must be banished in its entirety from the docks for winter quarters. That would be logical from its premises, however false the premises may be.

Another thing is that the S. L. P. is not the wage system, together with private capitalist ownership of the resources of the earth and the machinery of wealth production, that the Socialist wishes to abolish—and to substitute, therefore, collective ownership of the above things, through which only can the working people obtain the full value of that labor and enjoy the affluence that is to-day possible for all.

Another thing in that manifesto I don't like is the naming of wage and salary workers separately.

Why this distinction, comrades of Section London?

Is it salary anything else but wages? and have we not had enough of division in the ranks of the wage-working class that we want to make a distinction of this kind? The S. L. P. and its trade union ally, the S. T. & L. A., especially, seek to break down all notions of an aristocracy of labor amongst our fellows. Let us stick to the sound principles of socialism, that the wage system, together with the wage system, is not ripe for Socialism, never, and that is, by going straight at it, Socialism can never be introduced by yielding up all that it stands for.

P. C., CHIC

